

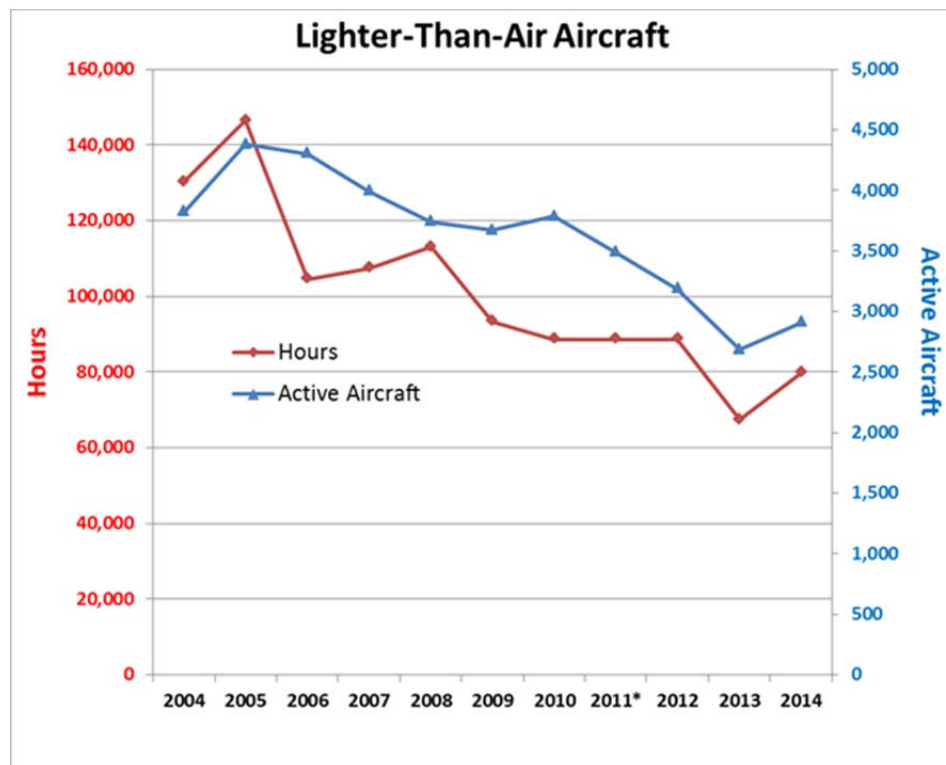
FAA Data Presentation:

Balloon Operations and Accidents

Hot air balloon activity is captured in the FAA *Annual General Aviation and Part 135 Activity Survey* under the category "lighter-than-air" (*this category also includes blimps*).

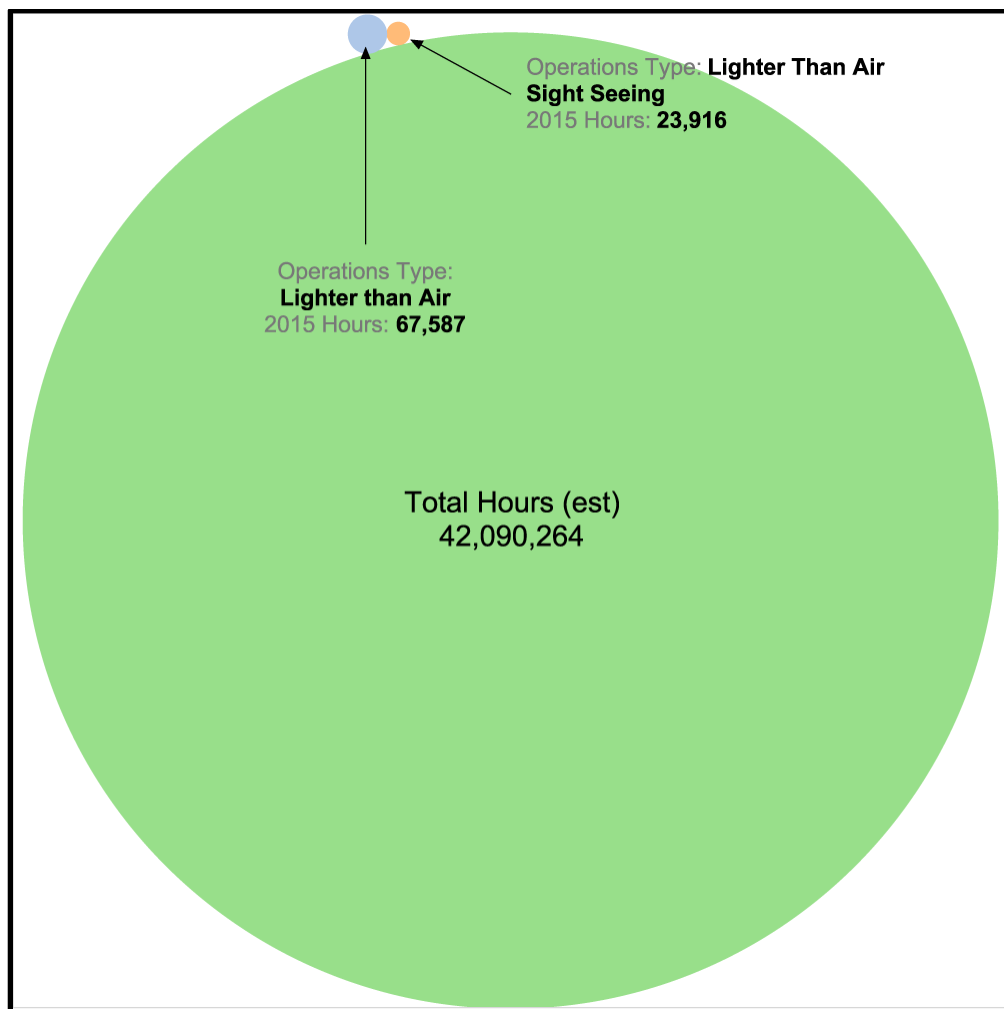
Summary of FAA GA Survey Data for Balloon Operations:

- Active lighter-than-air aircraft account for **1.4%** of all GA active aircraft.
- Lighter-than-air hours account for only **0.3%** of all GA hours
- A lighter-than-air aircraft flies an average of **27 hours per year**
- Between 2005 and 2014, lighter-than-air active aircraft were reduced by 33.6%, and hours were reduced by 45.5%
- **Use as a percentage of all lighter-than-air hours** (using the average of GA survey data from the past three years of full data from 2012, 2013, and 2014):
 - 51% are Personal Use (GA)
 - 35% are Sight Seeing Use (GA)
 - 3% are Instructional Use (GA)
 - 2% are Business Use (GA)
 - 7% Other Work Use (GA)
 - 1% are Air Tours (On-demand Part 135)



Flight Hour Comparison:
Lighter Than Air vs. All U.S. Aviation

<u>Aviation Sector</u>	<u>CY 2015 Hours</u>	<u>Percent of Total Hours</u>
General Aviation (survey)	24,141,864	
Part 121 (estimate)	17,599,000	
Commuter (estimate)	349,400	
TOTAL	42,090,264	
Lighter than Air	67,587	0.161 %
Lighter Than Air Sight Seeing	23,916	0.057 %



Summary of Balloon Accidents

(source: NTSB):

- In the last 15 years -- 223 total balloon accidents
 - 20 of the 223 accidents involved fatalities,
 - 40 fatalities occurred in the 20 fatal accidents
 - 16 of the 40 fatalities are attributed to the recent Lockhart, Texas accident
- In the last 10 years --- 124 total balloon accidents
 - 12 of the 124 accidents involved fatalities,
 - 32 fatalities occurred in these 12 fatal accidents
 - 16 of the 32 fatalities are attributed to the recent Lockhart, Texas accident
- Balloon-related accidents associated with power lines:
 - Out of the 100 total balloon-related accidents from 2008 until August of this year, 15 accidents were associated with power lines. *(This figure includes the recent fatal Lockhart, Texas accident.)*
 - Of the 15 balloon accidents involving powerlines, 3 accidents involved fatalities.

- Fatal Accidents involving Hot Air Balloons, by calendar year since 2011

<u>Year</u>	<u># of accs</u>	<u># of fatalities</u>
2011	0	0
2012	1	1
2013	1	1
2014	2	4
2015	0	0
2016	1	16

- AFS-830 Analysis of All N-registered Balloon Accidents in the U.S.:
October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2013 (10 years)
 - 127 total accidents -- 12 fatal accidents + 115 non-fatal accidents
 - **4 fatal accidents in commercial balloon operations** with a total of 4 fatalities
 - 50 non-fatal accidents in commercial balloon operations
- AFS-830 Analysis of All N-registered Balloon Accidents in the U.S.:
October 1, 2003 through July 29, 2016 (12-1/2 years – Just prior to Lockhart Texas accident)
 - 160 total accidents – 15 fatal accidents + 145 non-fatal accidents
 - **5 fatal accidents in commercial balloon operations** with a total of 5 fatalities
 - 66 non-fatal accidents in commercial balloon operations
- Second Deadliest Balloon Accident in the U.S.
 - The deadliest balloon accident in the U.S. -- prior to the 16-fatal July 2016 Lockhart accident-- occurred on **August 8, 1993** in Woody Creek, Colorado, when **5 people were killed**.
 - The accident involved a commercial sightseeing flight that encountered a wind shift and high winds. The balloon basket was severed after striking a powerline, causing it to fall 108 feet above the ground. *(NTSB Case no. DEN93FA100)*

Lighter-Than-Air Fatal Accident Rates (*per 100,000 flight hours*) – CY 2004-2014

